

Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
receiving product movement information for a plurality of shipments of products,
wherein the product movement information includes a source location, a
destination location and a transportation device for each of the shipments, and
further wherein the products include at least two grown commodities from
different fields;
determining a plurality of lots based on the product movement information by
assigning a new electronic lot identifier each time the grown commodities from
two or more of the different fields are commingled by storing or moving the
grown commodities together as a single lot, the new electronic lot identifier
tracking the commingled lot and tracking the previously non-commingled lots as
a single lot identifier; and
generating, based on the product movement information and the assigned lot
identifiers, a report identifying the plurality of lots in which the grown
commodities from different fields have been commingled.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the product movement information includes a
designation of a farm, a field and time harvested.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising issuing a recall order
recalling one of the lots upon determining that the lot is contaminated.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 further comprising:
determining all of the lots that have been commingled with the contaminated lot; and
recalling all the lots determined to have been commingled with the contaminated lot.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

presenting a contract interface to define contracts between producers and customers based on order established by the customers; and

providing a contract module to monitor contract generation and-prevent a contract from being generated that is in excess of the order.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising presenting an interface to define programs for tracking a given one of the determined lots.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising presenting an interface for receiving program information to establish checklists for procedures for moving and storing the given lot.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

presenting an interface for receiving program information for establishing parameters for certifying actions taken in moving and storing the given lot; and receiving an indication that the actions have been certified.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein each of the lot identifiers comprises an indication of the character of the commingled products.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the indication of the character of the products includes the seed variety used to grow each of the grown commodities.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the indication of the character of the products includes an indication of whether any of the grown commodities is bio-engineered.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the indication of the character of the products includes an indication of whether any of the grown commodities is conventionally grown.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the indication of the character of the products includes an indication of whether any of the grown commodities is organically grown.

16. (Withdrawn) A method comprising:
receiving product movement information including a location identification; and
storing the product movement information, wherein the product movement information includes an indication of a time in, a time out, a location identification, and an indication of whether the location was clean and empty when receiving the lot.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 further comprising receiving a lot identifier.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17 wherein a new lot identifier is assigned to each new lot and a new lot is created each time two lots are commingled.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16, wherein the location information indicates a transportation device.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 further comprising tracing the lot to determine the location that the lot has been in and to determine every product that has been commingled with the lot

21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 20 further comprising generating a report of the traced lot.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 further comprising issuing an order recalling a lot determined to be contaminated.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 22 further comprising:
determining all lots that have been commingled with the contaminated lot; and
recalling all the lots determined to have been commingled with the contaminated lot.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 further comprising providing an interface for allowing the customer to define programs for tracking a given lot.
25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 wherein the product movement information is received from a business entity.
26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24 further comprising providing an interface for establishing checklists of procedures for moving and storing the given lot that must be followed to comply with the program.
27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24 further comprising:
providing an interface for establishing parameters for certifying actions taken in moving and storing the given lot; and
receiving an indication that the actions have been certified.
28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein receiving the indication includes electronically receiving a certification document.
29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16, wherein the identification of the lot further comprises an indication of the character of the product.
30. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 29 wherein the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the product includes the seed variety that was used to grow the commodity.
31. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 29 wherein the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the product includes an indication of whether the commodity is bio-engineered.

32. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 29, wherein the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the product includes an indication of whether the commodity is conventionally grown.

33. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 29, wherein the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the product includes an indication of whether the commodity is organically grown.

34. (Withdrawn) A method comprising:
receiving lot identification information from a producer;
receiving storage location information for each storage location the lot is stored in including an identification the storage location, an indication of a time in, a time out, and a clean and empty status;
receiving transportation information about each transportation device the lot is transported in, including an identification the transportation device, an indication of a time in, a time out, and a clean and empty status;
storing the received information in a database; and
displaying a tracking interface for tracking a lot based on the information in the database.

35. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34 wherein new lot identification information is assigned to each new lot and a new lot is created each time two lots are commingled.

36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, wherein the received storage location information also includes an identification of any other products that the lot may be commingled with during storage.

37. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, wherein the received transportation information also includes an identification of any other products that the lot may be commingled with during storage.

38. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, wherein lot identification information is a designation of a farm, a field and a time harvested.

39. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34 further comprising tracing the lot to determine each storage location and transportation device that the lot has been in previously.

40. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein tracing the lot identifies every product that has been commingled with the lot.

41. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34 further comprising:
determining if a lot is contaminated; and issuing an order recalling a contaminated lot.

42. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 41 further comprising:
identifying each lot the contaminated lot has been commingled with; and recalling all lots commingled with the contaminated lot.

43. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34 further comprising providing an interface for a customer to define programs for tracking a given lot.

44. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 43 further comprising providing an interface for establishing checklists for procedures for moving and storing the given lot that must be followed to comply with the program.

45. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 44 further comprising:
providing an interface for establishing parameters for certifying actions taken in moving and storing the given lot; and
receiving an indication that the actions have been certified.

46. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 45, wherein receiving the indication includes electronically receiving a certification document.

47. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, wherein the identification of the lot further comprises an indication of the character of the product.

48. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 47, wherein the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the product includes the seed variety that was used to grow the commodity.

49. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 47, wherein the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the product includes an indication of whether the commodity is bio-engineered.

50. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 47, wherein the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the product includes an indication of whether the commodity is conventionally grown.

51. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 47, wherein the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the product includes an indication of whether the commodity is organically grown.

52. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising
instructions stored thereon causing a programmable processor to:
 present an operating interface to receive operating instructions from a customer to define a lot tracking program;
 present a production interface to receive lot identification information from one or more producers of a plurality of products, wherein the lot identification information identifies a lot for each of the products, and wherein the products include at least two grown commodities from different fields;
 present a transportation interface to receive movement information from a transporter of the products including an identification of each transportation device and timing information, wherein the timing information for each lot includes a time stamp identifying when the lot is moved;

present a storage interface to receive storage information from one or more storage facilities indicating location where each of the lots is stored and timing information for the storage, wherein the timing information for each lot includes a time stamp identifying when the lot is stored;

assign a first lot identifier to a lot;

assign a new lot identifier each time two or more lots containing grown commodities from the different fields are commingled by transporting or storing the grown commodities together as a single lot, the new lot identifier tracking the commingled commodities and tracking the grown commodities as if they were not commingled using a single lot identifier;[[.]] and

present a tracing interface wherein a given lot can be identified and its history traced by identifying any other lots that have been commingled with the given lot.

53. (Cancelled)

54. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 52, wherein the timing information includes a time the lot moves in and a time the lot moves out.

55. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 52, wherein the storage information includes an indication of whether the storage facility is clean and empty.

56. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 52, wherein the movement information includes an indication of whether the transportation device is clean and empty.

57. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 52, having further instructions stored thereon to cause the programmable processor to provide a recall interface wherein a given lot can be identified as contaminated and the contaminated lot and any lots of a similar type commingled with the contaminated lot are identified and recalled based on the lot identification information, the movement information, and the storage information.

58. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 52, wherein the storage information includes an identification of any lots stored in the storage facility since the last indicated clean and empty status.

59. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 52, wherein the movement information includes an identification of any lots moved in the transportation device since the last indicated clean and empty status.

60. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 55, having further instructions stored thereon to cause the programmable processor to:

- provide a contract interface so that a customer can define a contract as part of the lot tracking program; and
- monitor a contract status to prevent the generation of a contract in excess of the lot tracking program.

61. (Withdrawn) A computer-readable medium comprising instructions stored thereon to cause a programmable processor to create a database table comprising:

- a first field for storing a unique lot identifier;
- a second field for storing a time stamp;
- a third field for storing a unique location identifier; and update the database with information received relating to the database fields.

62. (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 61, wherein a new lot identifier is assigned to each new lot and a new lot is created each time two lots are commingled.

63. (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 61, wherein the time stamp includes a first time and date the lot is moved into a location and a second time and date that the lot is moved out of the location.

64. (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 61 comprising further instructions stored thereon to cause the programmable processor to create a fourth field in the database for indicating whether other products are commingled with the lot.

65. (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 61 comprising further instructions stored thereon to cause the programmable processor to create a fourth field in the database for indicating whether the location is clean and empty.

66. (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 61 comprising further instructions stored thereon to cause the programmable processor to trace an identified lot and determine each location the identified lot has been in previously.

67. (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 66, wherein the trace also indicates any other lots commingled with the identified lot.

68. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

a database to store movement tracking information relating to a unique identification of a plurality of lots containing products, a location of each of the lots, and timing information associated with the movement of each of the lots, wherein the products include at least two grown commodities from different fields; and

a server to generate a tracking screen for tracing the movement and storage of one or more of the lots based on the database

wherein the server is configured to assign a new lot identifier to a first one of the lots each time two or more of the lots containing the grown commodities from the different fields are commingled by storing or moving the grown commodities together into the first lot, and

wherein the server is configured to identify any of the commingled products that have been stored together.

69. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 68, wherein the server further comprises a program configuration module configured to allow a customer to define a program for tracking the lots.

70. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 69, wherein the program provides a checklist for handling the lots.

71. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 69, further comprising a contract module that allows the customer to generate a contract with a producer for a quantity of a product defining the lots.

72. (Original) The system of claim 71, wherein the contract module prevents the generation of a contract in excess of a predetermined maximum order.

73. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 69, wherein the program configuration module allows the customer to define certification requirements for handling the lots.

74. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 73, wherein the certification requirements include electronically delivering certification documents to the system.

75. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 68, further comprising:
an audit, certification and testing module configured to allow transporters of the lots to identify for each of the lots a specific transportation device, a time the lot enters the transportation device, a time the lot leaves the transportation device, and a clean and empty status of the transportation device.

76. (Original) The system of claim 68, wherein the system is in communication with a business entity and receives movement tracking information from the business entity.

77. (Original) The system of claim 68, further comprising a contract module for facilitating and monitoring contracts wherein the contract module prevents the generation of a contract in excess of a predetermined order maximum.

78. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 68, further comprising an audit, certification and testing module configured to allow storage facilities that store the lots to identify for each of the lots a specific storage location, a time the lot enters the storage location, a time the lot leaves the storage location, and a clean and empty status of the storage location.

79. (Withdrawn) A system configured to track of movements of a product lot between a producer of the product, transporters of the product, and storage units that store the product, the system comprising:

- a database;

- a server configured to

- receive production information from the producer, the production information including an identification of a seed variety used for the lot, the field the lot -was grown on, a farm storage location, timing data indicating when the lot was stored and when the lot was shipped from the farm storage location, an identification of commingled products, and a certification certifying at least a portion of the production information;

- receive transportation information from a transporter of the lot, the transportation information including an identification of the transportation device, a time received in the transportation device, a time unloaded from the transportation device, an identification of products commingled during transportation, and a certification certifying at least a portion of the transportation information;

- receive storage information including an identification of the storage facility, a time received by the storage facility, a time delivered from the storage facility, an identification of products commingled during storage, and a certification certifying at least a portion of the storage information;

- store the received production information, transportation information, and storage information in the database; and

- generate tracing information for the lot.

80. (Withdrawn) A system configured to track of movements of a grown product lot between a producer of the product, transporters of the product, and storage units that store the product, the system comprising:

a database; and
a server configured to

receive production information from the producer, the production information including an identification of a seed variety used for the lot, the field the lot was grown on, a farm storage location, timing data indicating when the lot was stored and when the lot was shipped from the farm storage location, an indication when the farm storage location is clean and empty, and a certification certifying at least a portion of the production information;

receive transportation information from a transporter of the lot, the transportation information including an identification of the transportation device, a time received in the transportation device, a time unloaded from the transportation device, an indication when the transportation device is clean and empty, and a certification certifying at least a portion of the transportation information;

receive storage information including an identification of the storage facility, a time received by the storage facility, a time delivered from the storage facility, an indication when the storage facility is clean and empty, and a certification certifying at least a portion of the storage information;

store the received production information, transportation information, and storage information in the database; and
generate tracing information for the lot.

81. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

receiving product movement information including a location status and a time stamp for each of a plurality products, wherein the time stamp identifies when the respective product was moved, and wherein the products include grown commodities from at least two different fields;
storing the product movement information in a database;

assigning a new lot identifier when the grown commodities from two or more of the different fields are commingled by moving or storing the grown commodities together from the different fields as a single lot; and

generating, based on the product movement information and the assigned lot identifiers, a report that identifies a location status for any of the grown commodities from the different fields that have been commingled.

82. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 81, wherein the product movement information includes for each of the products a unique product identifier that includes a designation of a farm, a field and time harvested.

83. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 81, further comprising recalling a lot determined to be contaminated based on the report.

84. (Withdrawn) A system comprising:

a database to store product movement information including a location, a location status, and a time; and

a lot tracking module to generate a tracking information for the product based on the product movement information stored in the database.

85. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 84 further comprising an audit, certification and testing module configured to receive the product movement information.

86. (Withdrawn); The system of claim 84, wherein the lot tracking module identifies commingled products based on the product movement information,

87. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 84, further comprising a program configuration module that receives and presents customer programs.